

# 11orth- wind

The Quarterly Newsletter of the  
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary  
District 11, Northern Region

Vol. 28 | Issue 1  
Jan – Mar 2021

# Getting Back Out There

*Silver Charm is  
Back Out There!*

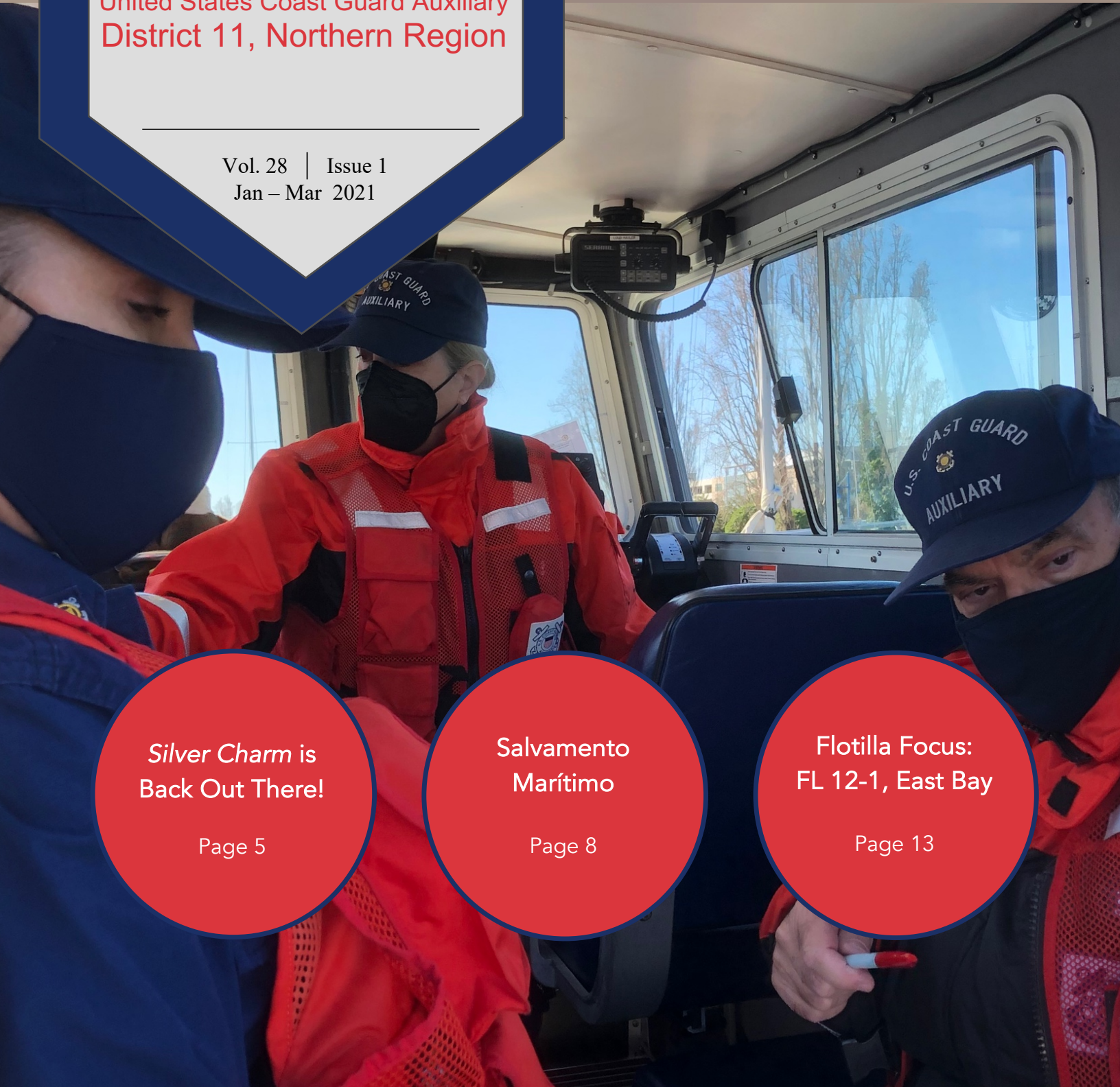
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**Cover Photo:** Auxiliarists Tiffany Townsend, Cassandra Mani, and Terry Blanchard conduct a pre-underway briefing aboard *Silver Charm* prior to their first training mission to prepare for Boatcrew Qualification.

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## From the Editor:

### **The work is done where the work is done.**

Like some of you, I have been working from home for over a year. On one hand, it was hard to make the transition from my study at church to my dining room table, from co-workers in the office to the full-time company of my dog. On the other hand, I count myself lucky to *be able* to work from home - many of the vulnerable among us can't.

For some of us, Auxiliary work has continued from home, too; we've done what we could, as we could, from where we are. But, I suspect that few of us joined the Auxiliary in order to sit in front of a computer. No doubt, some did; but, a lot of us have been missing the feel of salt air on our faces.

Finally, it has become safe enough for some to return to in-person service. As you might have guessed from the cover, our lead story this quarter is about the return to in-person missions - though "return" makes it sound like it's the same as it always was. It's not. And that's going to be a whole new transition period (though my dog might enjoy having the house to herself sometimes). As you read through this issue, consider those who have maintained their posts through this year, those who are *getting back out there*, those for whom it's not yet safe enough, and those who benefit from the work that each of us contributes toward the Auxiliary.

Peace,

The Rev. Gregory O. Schaefer  
*NORTHWIND* editor (FL 46, Redwood City)  
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# From the District Commodore

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Ahoy, D11N Shipmates; Welcome to 2021. I hope you and your families had a wonderful holiday season and you are ready to perform pre-season maintenance checks on facilities, dust off PFDs, and get those pencils sharpened to conduct vessel inspections as we enter the new year.

There is one word that continues to be on my mind as we start enjoying longer days and the temperatures start to get warmer: "COVID-19." We're now approaching one year since the Auxiliary stood down due to the worldwide pandemic and during that time we continued to persevere and prepare for the day when we can return to full duty.

**What's happened in past three months?** These past three months have been busy. Since the D11 Aux Reconstitution Plan Phase II was rolled out in November, members have been starting to take advantage of the new/revised guidelines and have been returning to duty in various capacities. Approximately 170 requests for assignment to duty have been authorized by the DIRAUX office since 1 Jan, including for on-the-water patrols and training, air patrols, PATON verifications, VSCs, and no-touch marine dealer visitation, just to name a few. The month-over-month trend line shows more members requesting orders and I do not see that trend slowing.

As you know, EXCOM made the tough decision early this year to cancel DTRAIN 2021. This was exceptionally difficult as COVID-19 prevented us from making our trek to Reno last year for our 2020 event, as well. We are looking forward to resuming this event in 2022, again in Reno. So, make sure to pencil in DTRAIN into your calendars for late-March, 2022. Even though we weren't able to offer our members the wide variety of training events at DTRAIN, we continued to embrace online training and held our District's first ever virtual PCA Fair, Elected Officer Training, and Division Commander training in January; over 300 members attend these three events. We also continue to update our Virtual Training Calendar and hold different training events each week. I urge all members to take advantage of these training opportunities to help you stay current in your existing qualifications and also to prepare you for new and exciting roles in our District. Overall, we have had an exciting past three months even while we are quasi-restricted in performing the tasks we enjoy.

**What is happening now?** There is light at the end of the tunnel!!! As we move into the second quarter, State Health Agencies in our AOR are making COVID-19 vaccines available to more and more people. This is great news as we approach what looks to be a very busy boating and recreation season. Please update your Auxiliary COVID-19 High-Risk Assessment Form (ANSI-7101)

and submit it to the DIRAUX general mailbox if you have had your entire vaccine course. Reminder: We are still in Phase II, which limits our activities and does not allow us to meet as groups. I encourage elected leaders to continue holding monthly Flotilla and Division meetings and fellowship events. Let's make sure we stay in touch!



Commodore Dean McFarren

Speaking of fellowship events, we will be holding our District Awards ceremony virtually on Saturday 8 May, 1000 hrs PDT and will recognize members who won 2019 Program awards, achieved AUXOP status and new qualifications in 2020, and earned District leadership awards in 2019-20. These awards would normally have been given at DTRAIN. Stay tuned for more information on the ceremony.

**What is coming up?** National Safe Boating Week (NSBW) is one of the premier events in our District and unofficially opens our boating season with VSC blitzes, PA events, Program Visits, and many afloat patrols. This year is going to be different as National has notified us that NSBW events are to be held virtually, but don't say "No" quite yet to potential in-person events if you are being contacted by agencies or organizations. Keep that door open and stay in touch with your POCs as conditions continue to change. Worst case scenario would be that we have to rearrange the in-person event to a virtual event if practical. So, keep your FCs and Division NSBW Coordinators aware of what is going on in your areas.

Overall, we are making headway and I look forward to this coming year. I have every confidence that we will be able to expand our tasking and missions as COVID-19 conditions get better, more people receive the vaccine, and the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary update guidance. I urge you to stay the course, keep safe, follow COVID safety protocols (wear a mask, social distance, wash your hands) at all times and get the vaccine if you believe it is safe to do so.

In closing, it would be remiss not to recognize six of our fellow shipmates that have passed over the bar in the past three months. Each made their own and lasting contributions and helped shape our District: Jim Blackburn, Lex Byers (ret), K. Sterling Hanson (ret), Shirley Johnson, Hannelore Maddox, and Dan Swett. Fair winds and following seas.

I look forward to seeing everyone hopefully soon. Please stay safe and remain *Semper Paratus*.

# Silver Charm is Back Out There!

by Roger Bazeley

*Silver Charm has begun its first phase-two redeployment crew training.*

If, boating or walking along the shores of San Francisco Bay, you notice a silver aluminum vessel sparkling in the sun with an Auxiliary Patrol banner and the American and USCG Auxiliary ensigns flying, it just might be Coxswain Terry Blanchard’s iconic *Silver Charm*. On Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> the crew of *Silver Charm* participated in their first COVID-19 Phase Two Rollout assignment together, their operational ‘bubble’ consisting of Coxswain Owner Terry Blanchard, Crew Tiffany Townsend, Gary Kaplan, and Cassandra Mani.

During this first approved training mission, all operational protocols were followed, with a pre-underway briefing conducted dockside to reorient everyone to the newly renovated facility. The mission’s level of risk versus gain were assessed using the Risk Management 2.0 “Afloat Risk Assessment Tool,” helping the crew and order issuing authority (Station San Francisco) assess whether immediate and real benefits are anticipated with an acceptable level of risk. Once a mission is accepted, evolving risk factors are monitored and a reassessment is performed if conditions or patrol activities change.

In addition to checking personal protective items, vessel safety equipment, communications, and navigation systems, patrolling under orders during District 11N Phase Two requires submission of a COVID-19 High Risk Assessment Form by each crew member. This form must be updated if health condition changes, including receiving a COVID-19 vaccination. Additionally, all members of an operational bubble must take on online Bloodborne Pathogen Awareness course.

In preparation for helicopter training exercises with USCG Air Station San Francisco, District 11N Commodore Dean McFarren reminded the *Silver Charm* crew that “COVID safety protocols are still in effect, which includes wearing face masks and maintaining social distancing when we can. It is vital that we adhere to the guidelines laid out in our Reconstitution plan to



ensure we continue to have the opportunity to receive orders and work with the active duty. Please ensure you and your crew follow the rules going forward.”

Extensive preparation is required to maintain the safety of our facilities and qualify Auxiliary crews for mission readiness. Fully trained Coxswains and crew members must both be knowledgeable and physically fit enough to perform mission-specific tasks. A minimum number of twelve crew hours must be logged annually and skills are reassessed every three years during practical exams.

Qualified crew support Team Coast Guard in promoting recreational boating safety through a variety of missions on the water, including search and rescue, kite board and windsurfer patrols, verification of aids to navigation, waterfront and port security, perimeter control during special events, and helicopter hoisting evolutions with Coast Guard rescue swimmers.

Upon returning from a mission, Mr. Blanchard reflects on the activities of the day during a crew debrief. Beginning with the least qualified member of the crew, in this case a trainee, experiences are shared along with lessons learned and opportunities for improvement. All depart following another charmed day on the water.

Roger Bazeley serves as ADSO-PB and is a member of FL 17, Point Bonita.



# Coast Guard Core Values: Honor

by Vicki Hudson

*Honor is the one personal attribute that no one can take from you. Honor is yours to lose, or yours to preserve. The public trust depends upon it.*

Honor is a term easily associated with military and public service. Honor is an idea that has social and cultural meaning, interpretation, and actions that are equated with the concept. What does it mean to be “accountable to the public trust”? What does “integrity is our standard” look like? Is honor a demanding stricture of behavior or a foundation to build upon?

In my perspective, honor is a process that sets conditions for sustainable behavior that creates outcomes consistent with what is right. The decisions and actions taken as an individual impact beyond the personal particularly, and especially, when in a position of public trust. We are imbued with access to resources and information as Auxiliarists that informs the capabilities provided during mission endeavors and accomplishment. How do we make choices when confronted with ethical or moral dilemma, that will enable and support the demonstration of our uncompromising ethical conduct and moral behavior in all personal actions? The key word there is uncompromising. But that seems such a cold, rigid behavioral wall. How can the concept of honor be applied day to day?

We are confronted with decision points all the time. Small wrongs open opportunities that may lead to larger wrongs, be that in professional work or personal relationships. Cutting corners, omitting details, skating through a task – what’s the harm if the overall mission is met? Do you meet the standard, exceed the standard, or fail the standard? Honor is demonstrated in the integrity of what we do.

As a matter of practice, there is always a choice. If confronted with a “no win” scenario, or the thought that there is no choice, or the temptation of justification “Only following orders,” I would challenge you that there is a choice to be made. The crucible for determining the honorable response is simple.

Choose the hard right over the easy wrong. If a decision benefits the public trust but potentially reduces personal access for success or accomplishment, the uncompromising ethical and

**Honor:**  
*Integrity is our standard. We demonstrate uncompromising ethical conduct and moral behavior in all of our personal actions. We are loyal and accountable to the public trust.*

moral behavior will go towards the public trust despite the personal sacrifice. That is what loyal and accountable to the public trust means. Honor is selfless performance of duty. Honor is remaining true to the trust the public has invested in us.

This is not to say making every decision regarding challenges to integrity is simple, many are complex. When encountering some decision points, we have much to fall back upon in the training we have received through the various models for decision making embedded in professional codes for ethical behavior. The standards of leadership we’ve been acclimated towards and trained upon. Our valid life experiences inform our behavior. The assertion here is that asking oneself the simple question – “what is the hard right over the easy wrong,” is a judgement signal when confronted with inclination, invitation, or illicit opportunity.

*Editor’s Note: This is the first in a series of articles exploring the Coast Guard’s Core Values.*

*Vicki Hudson serves as ADSO-PB and is a member of Flotilla 12-1, East Bay.*



# Cooking-in-Place with AuxFS by Michele Gibson and Linda Haynes

*The Auxiliary Food Service Program was developed from the wonderful Auxiliarists who showed up to cook for the Coast Guard during 9/11.*

## Baked French Toast

Butter, for greasing  
 1 loaf crusty sourdough  
 8 whole eggs  
 2 cups whole milk  
 Half cup heavy cream  
 Half cup sugar  
 Half cup brown sugar  
 2 tbsp. Vanilla extract

### Preparation:

Grease a baking pan with butter. Tear or cut bread into chunks or cubes, and evenly distribute in the pan.

Crack eggs in a large bowl. Whisk together the eggs, milk, cream, sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla extract.

Pour evenly over the bread.

Cover tightly and store in the fridge (overnight preferably). Or bake it right away.

When you're ready to bake, preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Remove casserole from fridge and sprinkle topping over the top. Bake for 45 minutes for a softer, more bread-pudding texture or 1 hour for a firmer, crisper texture. Scoop out individual portions; top with butter, drizzle with maple syrup, sprinkle with blueberries.

### Topping:

Half cup flour  
 ½C firmly packed brn. sugar  
 1 tsp. Cinnamon  
 ¼ tsp. Salt  
 Freshly grated nutmeg  
 1 stick butter, cut in pieces  
 Maple syrup  
 Butter, for serving  
 1 cup fresh blueberries

Mix flour, brown sugar, cinnamon, salt, and some nutmeg in a separate bowl. Add the butter and with a pastry cutter (or two forks), combine until mixture resembles small pebbles. Store in a bag in the fridge.

Michele Gibson, Div. 4 SO-FS, is a member of FL 46, Redwood City.



They showed up at the Station and began making food that could be eaten at the Station or taken out on a cutter. People realized, this could be a viable program. In 2013, the AuxChef program (later AuxFS) was approved.

There are some basic requirements for this program. First, one must have a Hep A shot and booster, and a mini medical assessment. The ICS 100 and 700 courses are required, as is being current on the Mandatory Core classes. There is an AuxFS course to take from a trained AuxFS, and a PQS to be completed. Then, there's an annual Sanitation Class.

Note that you do not have to be a Chef! The class teaches about Sanitation and Safety, basic knife and cutting skills, the difference between herbs and spices, and some very basic cooking skills. Hopefully, working with experienced and trainee chefs, you learn and cook some interesting recipes.

Once you are an AuxFS, the experience is amazing. You can cook at a Station or on a Cutter, under the direction of a Culinary Specialist. You could be asked to assist the Admiral's Chef to cook and serve at their meetings and events.

The Active Duty side has asked the AUX-FS to plan, prepare, serve at, or help with a lot of large or special events. During the christening of the new Cutters, the Coast Guard invited the Auxiliary to attend one of their cake decorating and ice sculpture classes. These classes were amazing and we have ended up with a first class ice sculptor in our ranks. We continue to try to get more classes from the Culinary school in Petaluma.

There is no better job you can do for the Coast Guard than to cook for them; Cooking gives us a chance to show them a little bit of home, and how much we appreciate their service.

Linda Haynes, District 11 DSO-FS, is a member of FL 12-91, San Ramon.



## Salvamento Marítimo

by Tiffany Townsend

### *The Best Ships are Friendships*

Cristian Simone, a volunteer member of *Salvamento Marítimo*'s sea rescue team, discovered the "U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Golden Gate" through the flotilla's Facebook page while on vacation in the San Francisco Bay Area. Excited to learn about our activities, he arranged a tour of the Coast Guard Station by FSO-PB Maria Goodavage (FL 12, Sausalito-Tiburon). This meeting, in October 2018, stimulated the idea of creating an international exchange program between two volunteer maritime organizations. On February 3, 2021 Flotilla 12 hosted *Salvamento Marítimo* ("Maritime Rescue") team members from Altea, Spain as special guests during the monthly flotilla meeting.

All members of Division 1 were invited, with nearly fifty participants in virtual attendance. Six Spanish guests accommodated the time difference, meeting at 0430 hrs, their time. Several videos were shared (links below) depicting their organizational structure, first aid, boat crew training, sea rescues, COVID-19 advances, and humanitarian efforts. Translating services provided by British-born *Salvamento Marítimo* shipmate Kathryn Perez, over an hour of lively discussion followed as the groups shared experiences and learned about each other.

*Salvamento Marítimo* is Spain's national organization in charge of safeguarding human life at sea and protecting the environment. Sponsored by the Spanish Red Cross (*Cruz Roja*) and working in conjunction with the State Society for Maritime Rescue and Safety (SASEMAR), the group coordinates all resources necessary for managing critical emergencies at sea. Like the Coast Guard Auxiliary, *Salvamento Marítimo* welcomes volunteers of all ages, professions, and nationalities, united by their love of the water and a commitment to helping others.

*Cruz Roja* maintains forty-four maritime rescue locations along Spain's coastal perimeter, serving the Mediterranean, Atlantic, and Cantabrian seas. On the

Eastern edge of the Iberian Peninsula, Altea is located on the Mediterranean Coast between the cities of Alicante and Valencia. Known as "The White Villa," Altea's charming old town is a popular tourist destination with a long seafaring tradition. With three recreational ports, one fishing port, and a pleasantly warm climate all year round, water activities abound for locals and visitors.

*Salvamento Marítimo*'s volunteer area of operation is limited to 12 nautical miles from the coastline, beyond which SASEMAR and law enforcement provide rescue services. The Altean base maintains three operational facilities, one category B (offshore) with a range of twelve nautical miles, and two category C (inshore inflatables) with patrols limited to 3 nautical miles. Personal protective equipment (PPE) includes life jackets, helmets, semi-dry suits, and wetsuits for lifeguards. Facilities are equipped with chart plotters, automatic identification systems (AIS), life buoys, tow lines, search lights, first aid kits, splints, stretchers, and portable oxygen therapy. The minimum crew for an emergency response is three; a skipper commanding the vessel and two crew members sharing seamanship and relief duties.

Mandated instruction for maritime rescue volunteers includes Red Cross basic institutional training, a forty-hour first aid course, and forty hours of "Module 10" training, covering seamanship, radio communications, knots, search and rescue, towing techniques, survival at sea, and emergency first response. Sea rescue volunteers are required to have a recreational boating license. Shipmates attend weekly hands-on training sessions focusing on both ground and sea rescue. Radio communications, navigation, line handling, first aid procedures, search patterns, boat maintenance, and the use of motor dewatering pumps are practiced together as a team.

When an emergency arises, "on call" maritime rescue volunteers are contacted via WhatsApp and are

required to report for duty within forty minutes. The most frequent calls for assistance involve boats unable to maneuver, grounded vessels, ill or injured boaters, or missing people. Evacuations are supported by Coast Guard rescue helicopters and emergency medical service ambulances for hospital transfers.

In addition to maritime rescue, *Salvamento Marítimo* volunteers support the most vulnerable members of society. Coordinated by the local Red Cross, volunteers organize free training workshops, temporary shelter during natural disasters, and food, water, and COVID-19 PPE distribution to support the local community.

Volunteer activities have been modified to meet COVID-19 safety requirements without having to reduce maritime rescue participation. Recommended distance is maintained, masks are worn continuously, and boats and equipment are disinfected following use. Practical sessions are broken into small groups in order to organize volunteers into operational “bubbles,” further reducing the risk of infection. Having learned much about each other during our two hours together, it was becoming late on the West Coast and time to bid our Altean guests, “¡Adios!” Little did we know the group had practical exams scheduled that day. (Cristian Simone later assured us everyone passed.)

In correspondence to FC Pete Gorenberg, Crisitan followed, “[Our] first meeting through Zoom has exceeded all our expectations. What began three months ago with your invitation to participate in your monthly meeting... has been rewarded with an activity that has brought us closer together.” Our fellowship has stimulated the interest of *Salvamento Marítimo*’s national leaders, who wish to continue sharing their love of the sea internationally with maritime rescue organizations.

Plans are being made for FL 12, Sausalito-Tiburon, and the Altean maritime rescue team to meet again, although next time on Spanish time.

Videos by Salvamento Marítimo:

From Altea to Sausalito-Tiburon:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nO64yLOVO34>

Land & Sea:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDjUt24Uhsc>

Ready, Prepared, Go:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1FxN3-F3XA>

Pandemic Advances Us Too:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azuwCrLVj7g>



Cristian Simone, Jesus Moreno, Kathryn Perez, Ruben Sanchez, Anderianza Lledo, and Mary Gonzalez. (Salvamento Marítimo Photos/Cristian Simone, Composite by Jane Clark)



Division 1 members meet with Salvamento Marítimo members via Zoom during Flotilla 12’s meeting on February 3, 2021. (USCG AUX Photo/Tiffany Townsend)

Tiffany Townsend is Deputy DSO-PB and Flotilla Vice Commander of Flotilla 12, Sausalito-Tiburon.





## Spotlight Question

Greg Schaefer

*The spotlight question encourages you to explore Auxiliary websites. The first person with the correct answer each quarter will be spotlighted here in the next issue of Northwind. Good luck!*

Last quarter's question: An Aux website lists eight *benefits of membership*; 1) What are those eight benefits, 2) Which one(s) have you personally received, and 3) Where did you find the list?

Answer: The eight benefits of membership are Base Exchange Shopping Privileges, Uniforms and Awards, Tax Deductions, Insurance Coverage, Coast Guard Federal Credit Union, Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, Coast Guard Work Life Programs, and Fellowship. Our winner reports being the recipient of Fellowship, and she found this information at <http://join.CGAUX.org/benefits>.

Congratulations to the first person to submit the correct answer, MARY STEPHENS!



Mary Stephens serves as VFC, FSO-OP, and FSO-NS for Flotilla 17, Point Bonita. She writes: *I recently completed my Boat Crew Member PQS and am greatly looking forward to earning my Boat Crew qualification at the next OPTREX. During Phase II it is my privilege to be mentored by our Division 1 VCDR, Terry Blanchard, who is graciously meeting with me via Zoom while I complete my ATON Verifier PQS.*

### This quarter's three-part question:

Leadership competencies are the knowledge, skills, and expertise the Coast Guard and Auxiliary expect of their leaders;

- 1) how many leadership competencies are there,
- 2) into what four categories are they grouped, and
- 3) where did you find this information?

Send your three-part answer in an email to [gregschaefer.uscgaux@gmail.com](mailto:gregschaefer.uscgaux@gmail.com).

## Coast Guard 5k/230 Mile Challenge by Michael Brown

*Why 230? It represents the 230<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Coast Guard!*

Division 4, South Bay, is trotting out its first division-wide morale activity of the year, the **2021 Coast Guard 5K/230 Mile Challenge**, sponsored by Run Fierce. Division members Alan Stanton, Eddie Lam, and Michael Brown have already signed up and all have completed the 5K milestone. All three continue to pursue the ultimate goal of going the full 230 miles. Why 230? It represents the 230<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Coast Guard!

Participation in this national event is not limited to just running. The 5K or 230 miles can be accomplished by walking, cycling, skipping, or even using treadmills or stationary bikes! Those many miles don't have to be done all at once: You can do a little each day at your own pace towards your goal.



The current Division 4, South Bay, Run Fierce Team, L-R: Eddie Lam, VCDR; Michael Brown, DCDR; Alan Stanton, DCAPT.  
Photo credit: Eddie Lam

For a \$25 registration fee, you get:

- An authentic race bib with individual number
- A Coast Guard 5K/230 Miles finisher's medal
- A donation made to the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance to which all members of the Coast Guard including the Auxiliary have access.

We've all been cooped up far too long with the pandemic restrictions over the last year. Get your entire flotilla involved as a fellowship activity and with the restrictions easing up, taking part as a group will only get easier. It's time to get with a terrific program, get out, and get healthier!

Go to [runfierce.com/collections/virtual-races/products/military-series-coast-guard-5k-10k-virtual-race](https://runfierce.com/collections/virtual-races/products/military-series-coast-guard-5k-10k-virtual-race) to sign up and get more information.

Michael Brown is Division Commander of Division 4, South Bay, and is a member of FL 41, San Jose.



## Volunteer Values

by Roger Bazeley

*"Our 22,000 uniformed U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers are profound examples of selfless devotion to duty who have not only embraced and exemplified my watchwords of 'Ready, Relevant, and Responsive,' but proudly add 'Resilient' to that list." -- Commandant Karl Schultz*

Team Coast Guard has always upheld the promise to serve our Nation by responding to disasters, rescuing boaters in distress, educating America's boating public, and focusing on maritime safety. Recreational boating safety is our first priority. We've asked Coast Guard Auxiliarists to reflect on their commitment to serve others.

Flotilla 14 member Carol Paz recounts, "I've been a member of the Auxiliary since 1996. The Auxiliary has given me an opportunity to give back to the community. Answering the call to fabricate needed COVID-19 masks has allowed me to serve both the active duty USCG and the Auxiliary."

Northeast Georgia Auxiliary educator Robin Pope notes, "Every year, more than 21 million people paddle a canoe, kayak or stand-up board. Each year, there are more than a hundred fatalities. Many could have been prevented by a few simple actions. Furthermore, if we highlight the safety problems and safe practices, we can, as instructors, vessel examiners and through publication and distribution of boating safety materials, help educate paddlers to the risks involved and mitigate those risks."

Sierra Division 11 Auxiliarist Victor Beelik's life changed while participating in a Transpacific yacht race from Los Angeles to Honolulu. His seventy-two foot vessel, with damaged rudder and taking on water, was rescued through a coordinated USCG response. A Hercules C-130 helicopter provided dewatering pumps and fuel, while a two hundred foot USCG cutter assisted with emergency rudder installation. His vessel was towed two days back to port by a buoy tender dispatched from Honolulu. Victor's appreciation motivated him to join the USCG Auxiliary in service for over three decades, focusing on vessel exams, aids to navigation, public affairs, and publications.

We've continued to serve Team Coast Guard missions throughout the COVID-19 shutdown. Auxiliary flotillas across the Nation are establishing specialized training and partnerships with Sea Scout youth under the new AUXSCOUT program. Even with constraints in place during the pandemic, the Auxiliary supported Coast Guard missions while remaining the vanguard for Recreational Boating Safety. Nationally, Coast Guard Auxiliarists delivered over 2.4 million hours of support, performed more than 121,500 vessel safety checks and marine dealer visits, and taught over 6,800 boating safety classes in 2019.

Consider our value as USCG Auxiliarists. We are "America's Volunteer Guardians." We dedicate millions of unpaid hours performing critical mission support to Team Coast Guard, in the form of vessel safety checks, public boating education, marine safety missions, and surface and air operational support.

In order to maintain qualifications and mission readiness, USCG Auxiliary volunteers train rigorously. We maintain our qualifications through operational training exercises, self-study, and virtual learning opportunities, keeping us prepared and mission ready. Per USCG Commandant Karl Shultz, "Providing training is one of the USCG and Auxiliary joint strategies that helps to build a diverse and inclusive mission environment, which is crucial to attracting and retaining top talent as well as building member engagement. Diversity and expanding the competencies of our people, keeps the Auxiliary strong and empowers mission readiness and excellence. Our mission is to be the volunteer organization of choice.

Roger Bazeley serves as ADSO-PB and is a member of FL 17, Point Bonita.



## Paddlecraft Safety

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### New Paddlecraft Safety Effort Starts at the Water's Edge



Canoeists and kayakers may soon see a red safety sign posted at launch ramps and other water access areas across the country. The new safety sign is part of an ongoing effort to reduce the number of paddle sport fatalities. USCG Recreational Boating Statistics show that, between 2013 and 2018, an average of 133 paddlers died each year – nearly a quarter of all boating deaths. The vast majority of these paddlers were not wearing a lifejacket and drowned.

The sign resembles a stop sign and carries a simple message - ***Stop. Always Wear Your Life Jacket.*** “The purpose of this program is to remind paddlers that the single most important factor in preventing drowning is to wear an appropriate life jacket,” said Robert E. Kumpf, of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary, the National Safe Boating Council, the Water Sports Foundation, and regional paddling organizations have worked together to promote paddlecraft safety. For more information about the Coast Guard Auxiliary’s paddlecraft safety programs please visit the Recreational Boating Safety Outreach Directorate's website.

# Flotilla Focus

by Quindy Sammler

## *What can I say about Flotilla 12-1, East Bay?*

With roughly 97 members and growing, thanks to incredible recruiting efforts, each member has their own unique set of interests and skillsets; when combined, we act as a well-oiled machine (or crew on a Coast Guard Cutter), which helps to support the missions and programs of the United States Coast Guard.



Flotilla 12-1 founded the Semper Paratus Club, which brings highly motivated and trained college students into the Auxiliary. We have the honor of holding our monthly meetings amongst the Active Duty and Reserve Coast Guard, on Coast Guard Island, located in the Oakland Estuary. This gives us a unique opportunity to partake in the Galley, Exchange, swimming pool, gym, and tour the four, 418-foot, Legend class Coast Guard Cutters.



East Bay Flotilla 12-1 members are dedicated in public education programs and excel in the number of completed vessel examinations on a yearly basis because we are passionate about boating safety. We are active in working with the youth, particularly with the Sea Cadets and Sea Scouts, and we love to brighten up Public Affairs events with Coastie by spraying kids with water during the hot summer months.

Although we do not presently have any Auxiliary Patrol Vessels (but would love to have one), we are very involved with boat crew and coxswain missions on Auxiliary Patrol Vessels outside of our flotilla for Fleet week, Kite Surfer Safety Patrols, MOM patrols, aids to navigation patrols, HELO OPS patrols with the active duty Coasties, and abandoned/derelict vessel survey patrols.



A since-retired Auxiliarist from Flotilla 12-1 taught us all we know about seamanship while on board her 1949 42-foot Herreshoff Schooner. What an incredible way to learn seamanship skills! This has allowed us to develop some incredible relationships with other members, which for many has created bonds akin to family bonds. We enjoy participating in the June OPTREX events and Antlers, where you will see members from 12-1 working tirelessly with food preparation, standing safety watches, radio watchstanding, and doing other very important operational jobs that help these events run smoothly.

Flotilla 12-1 also has an active Marine Safety and Environmental Protection program, and participates in the Dockwalker program, Ferry Vessel Audits, Derelict and Abandoned Vessel Surveys, and coastal beach clean-ups. When Flotilla 12-1 is not busy with member training or giving out free life jackets to the public, we enjoy having monthly fellowship dinners at our flotilla meetings, yearly picnics-BBQs-potlucks-chili-cook-offs, and joining the festivities at D-Train and N-Train.

Quindy Sammler is, as you might have guessed, a member of Flotilla 12-1, East Bay.



## Those Who Have Crost the Bar

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David T. Wright, FL 35, Sacramento, 1 December

Dan S. Swett, FL 15, 19, 14 January

K. Sterling Hansen, ret., FL 76, Ogden, 5 February

Jim D. Blackburn, FL 57, Diablo, 7 February

Lex J. Byers, ret., FL 14, Central Marin, 11 February

Shirley C. Johnson, FL 64, Monterey, 7 March

Hannelore Maddox, FL 8-39, Thirtyniners, 18 March

### "Crossing the Bar"

by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

*Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,  
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.  
Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;  
For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crost the bar.*

*Rest easy, shipmates; we've got the watch.*

THE NEW TOOLS OF THE TRADE!  
**WEAR IT!**  
YOUR SAFETY IS JOB #1

